

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

      DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 L-03 H-02

      SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /065 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AVP:SCKEITER:VLV

APPROVED BY EB/OA:MHSTYLES

EB/AVP - AJWHITE

EUR/NE -NACHILLES

EUR/WE - EGJBEIGEL

TREAS - GWILLIS (DRAFT)

EB/IFD - B.CROWE

----- 074386

P R 190020Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, EFIN, US, UK

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - ALLEGED 1964 US ATTEMPT TO STOP CONCORDE

REF: LONDON 7067 AND 7191

SUMMARY. INFORMATION AVAILABLE WASHINGTON, WHILE NOT  
NECESSARILY CONCLUSIVE, SUGGESTS STRONGLY THAT ALLEGATION  
THAT US ATTEMPTED ABORT CONCORDE PROJECT IN 1964 IS UNTRUE.  
END SUMMARY.

1. AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS NOT ONLY DO NOT SUPPORT AMERY  
CHARGE BUT BY TONE AND CONTEXT TEND TO DISCREDIT IT.

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INDIVIDUALS WHOSE RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN USG INCLUDED

AVIATION AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS HAVE NO RECOLLECTION WHATEVER OF SUCH AN ATTEMPT. INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE SUPPORTS RECOLLECTION OF LORD GEORGE-BROWN.

2. FYI ONLY. OBVIOUSLY WE CANNOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY THAT SOMETHING WAS SAID INFORMALLY ON THIS SUBJECT WITHOUT GETTING INTO OFFICIAL RECORD. END FYI.

3. IN RECONSTRUCTING SITUATION, IT IMPORTANT RECALL CHRON-  
OLOGY. NEW LABOR GOVERNMENT IN OCTOBER 1964; ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEASURES TO IMPROVE BRITISH BALANCE OF PAYMENTS,

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INCLUDING REVIEW OF CONCORDE PROJECT, OCTOBER 26;  
ANNOUNCEMENT OF 900 MILLION POUND (3 BILLION DOLLARS)  
LOAN TO UK BY VARIOUS COUNTRIES, WITH US HAVING ONE-THIRD  
SHARE, NOVEMBER 24; ANNOUNCEMENT OF DROPPING HS 1154 ABOUT  
TURN OF YEAR; ANNOUNCEMENT DROPPING TSR-2, EARLY FEB 1965.

4. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE US IN CONTACT WITH UKG WHILE  
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS MEASURES DRAWN UP. WHEN PM INFORMED  
PRESIDENT, RESPONSE TOUCHED ON SEVERAL SUBSTANTIVE POINTS,  
BUT NOT CONCORDE OR ANY OTHER AVIATION PROJECT. THEN, IN  
DISCUSSIONS LEADING UP TO NOVEMBER LOAN, EUROPEANS SAW  
U.S. AND UK AS COOPERATING, IF ANYTHING, TOO CLOSELY.  
DOUBT THAT BRITISH HAD TAKEN EVERY INTERNAL MEASURE IT  
COULD WAS WIDESPREAD, BUT INFORMAL SUGGESTIONS THAT BRITISH  
SHOULD CUT BACK ON GOVERNMENT BUDGET SEEM TO HAVE COME  
FROM EUROPEANS, PARTICULARLY FRENCH. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE  
THAT ANY COUNTRY MADE THIS A CONDITION FOR PARTICIPATION.  
ON CONTRARY, THEN CHANCELLOR OF EXCHEQUER CALLAGHAN STATED  
CATEGORICALLY IN PARLIAMENT THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CON-  
DITIONS OF ANY KIND. MILITARY AIRCRAFT CANCELLATIONS CAME  
LATER AND EVIDENCE, PARTICULARLY IN TSR-2 CASE, SUGGESTS  
THAT FINAL DECISION WAS MADE ONLY AT LAST MOMENT.

5. WHILE ISSUE IS PROBABLY BEST LEFT TO BRITISH, SUGGEST  
EMBASSY MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS IF IT BELIEVES DISCUSSION  
OF ALLEGATION DESIRABLE: USG HAS NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT  
AMERY ALLEGATION. ITS RECORDS SUGGEST THAT IDEA OF  
REVIEWING CONCORDE PROJECT WAS A PURELY UK IDEA,  
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ANNOUNCED BEFORE THE LOAN NEGOTIATIONS BEGAN.

6. INCIDENTALLY, STORY HAS NOT CAUSED STIR IN U.S. IN  
FACT, WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY APPEARANCE IN U.S. MEDIA AT  
ALL. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONCORDE, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 MAY 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** SCKEITER:VLV  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760193-0282  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** EAIR, EFIN, US, UK  
**To:** LONDON  
**Type:** TE  
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